2/4/09

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Shoji AIHARA et al.

Appl. No.

: 10/578,440 (U.S. National Stage

of PCT/JP2004/016312)

I. A. Filed

: November 4, 2004

Examiner: S. M. Michalski

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RCE 8/6/09
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A12/09

Confirmation No.: 9055

T. C. Art Unit: 3724

For

: BAND SAW MACHINE, SAW BLADE ATTACHING METHOD SAW BLADE DRIVING METHOD AND CUTTING METHOD

IN BAND SAW MACHINE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop <u>AF</u>
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Final Official Action dated March 9, 2009, setting a three month statutory period for response extending until June 9, 2009. Applicants have concurrently herewith filed a Request for Extension of Time, together with the appropriate fee, extending the period for response one month until July 9, 2009. Should any additional extension of time be necessary to maintain the pendency of this application, including any extension of time required to place the application in condition for allowance by an Examiner's Amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee to Deposit Account 19-0089.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, as well as an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application.